

December 13, 1904.

HERBERT DRUCE, Esq., F.Z.S., Vice-President,  
in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of November 1904:—

The number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of November was 150. Of these 68 were acquired by presentation and 14 by purchase, 26 were received on deposit, 34 in exchange, and 8 were bred in the Menagerie. The number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 179.

Amongst these, special attention may be called to the following:—

1. A Ferret Badger (*Helictis personata*) from Burmah, presented by Capt. Burnett on Nov. 4th. This species has not been exhibited previously in the Gardens.

2. Two Chimpanzees (*Anthropopithecus schweinfurthi*), a male and female, from the Bagomo Forest, Uganda, presented by Mr. Stanley C. Tomkins, C.M.G., on Nov. 7th. These animals are nearly adult, the male being the finest Chimpanzee ever shown in the Gardens.

3. A male specimen of the Senegal race of the African Buffalo (*Bubalus centralis*), deposited on Nov. 21st. No example of this subspecies has been exhibited previously in the Menagerie.

4. Three Mouse-Hares (*Ochotona roylei*) from Baluchistan, presented by Col. Chas. E. Yates on Nov. 28th. These interesting little Rodents are also new to the Collection.

---

Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S., exhibited specimens of a pair of Gazelles from Palestine which had been sent by Dr. Selah Merrill, U.S. Consul at Jerusalem, to Dr. Sclater, and had been passed on by the latter to the British Museum\*.

The Gazelle proved to have no relationship to *Gazella dorcas*, the only species as yet recorded from Palestine, but to be nearly related to the Edmi or Atlas Gazelle (*Gazella cuvieri*), of which, although distinct, it might be considered a local representative. As no Gazelle of this type was found in the intermediate countries of Tripoli and Egypt, so that connecting links were unlikely to occur, it seemed more in accordance with modern practice to give the Palestine form a binomial rather than a trinomial name.

The Gazelle was therefore proposed to be called:—

GAZELLA MERRILLI Thos. (Text-fig. 90, p. 348.)

*Gazella merrilli* Thos. Abstr. P. Z. S. No. 12, p. 19, Dec. 13, 1904.

Colour and general appearance exactly as in *G. cuvieri*, the

\* [The complete account of the new species described in this communication appears here, but since the name and preliminary diagnosis were published in the 'Abstract,' the species is distinguished by the name being underlined.—EDITOR.]

coarse hair; the markings, knee-brushes, and tone of body-colour all just as in that animal, of which a figure and description had been published in the 'Book of Antelopes'\*..

But in size of skull and in the development of the horns the Palestine Gazelle was markedly inferior to that from the Atlas, as might be seen from the measurements given below, while the curvature of the horns was distinctly different. In *G. cuvieri* the horns, which might attain to 12 or 13 inches in height and have up to 24 well-developed rings, were very slightly curved backwards below and equally slightly—indeed scarcely at all—recurved forwards at their tips. In the Palestine form, on the other hand, the horns in an old male were short, thick basally, and markedly S-shaped, curved backwards below, and distinctly recurved forwards at their tips; the ridges, which were less well defined than in *cuvieri*, numbered only about 10–12. Viewed from in front, the horns were evenly divergent, without liration.

Text-fig. 90.



Skull and horns of *Gazella merrilli*.

The horns of the female were of fair relative development, nearly four inches in length, and about half an inch in diameter at the base, smooth throughout, slightly curved upwards.

The skull was decidedly smaller than in *G. cuvieri*, the nasals shorter, and the premaxillary bones did not in either specimen

\* Vol. iii. p. 109 (1898).